

**Economics Syllabus**  
2014 - 2015, Room 413

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**Course Website:** [johnson-home.wikispaces.com](http://johnson-home.wikispaces.com)

**Course Description:** Economics is a required social studies course of one credit taught at the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level. This course provides opportunities for students to study basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services. Content builds an understanding of the essential components and benefits of the free enterprise system. Students study such concepts as scarcity, economic interdependence, the market system, prices, economic stability, and governmental activity.

**Common Core State Standards:** The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs. The standards: (1) are aligned with college and work expectations, (2) are clear, understandable, and consistent, (3) include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills, (4) build upon strengths and lessons of current state (GPS) standards, (5) are informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and (6) are evidence-based.

**Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC):** This framework offers a fresh approach to incorporating literacy into high school content areas. This new way of thinking prepares all students to have the literacy skills they need to be college/career ready. This framework connects common core standards with secondary ELA, social studies and science classrooms. The rubrics that will be used to score students' major assignments will be given with any assignments.

**Texts:** *Economics: Principles & Practices* by Gary E. Clayton, Ph.D.

**Course Requirements:** Each student will be required to complete a variety of daily assignments (individual and group), quizzes and tests, all of which will be relevant to passing the course and graduating high school. Grades are based upon completion of assignments and mastery of the material. **Passing the Georgia Milestones in Economics exam is expected!!!! Remember, passing this test can substitute for passing the Social Studies portion of the graduation test and allow you to graduate if this still applies to anyone.**

**Grades are calculated as follows:**

For each 9 (18) weeks:	90 – 100 = A
Tests/Projects = 60%	80 – 89 = B
Quizzes = 15%	70 – 79 = C
Class work & Homework = 25%	69 & < = F

The average of the two 9 weeks grades will represent 85% of the final grade  $[(1^{st} 9 (18) \text{ avg} + 2^{nd} 9 (18) \text{ avg}) / 2] \times .85 = \text{"A"}$   
Georgia Milestones will be the other 15% (probably) of the final grade (GAM score  $\times .15 = B$ )  
 $A + B = \text{Final grade out of 100}$   
Georgia Milestones will be given weeks 35 to 37, which means we have only 34 weeks.

**Attendance:** It is essential that you attend class regularly or you will fall behind. If your absence is unexcused, you may NOT be allowed to make up your work.

**Make-up Work:** You have a maximum of three class days from when you return to arrange to make up work, but you will be required to make up quizzes and tests the day you return – you will not have more time than the rest of the class to prepare. If you do not see me within the required time it is a zero. All lesson plans are posted on the course website and therefore you will know well in advance when those tests and quizzes will occur. **No excuses!!!!**

**ILT/Cherokee Block:** Many of you will be placed in an Economics Cherokee Block in order to reinforce what you are learning in class – re-teaching material you are weak in, more hands on activities, test strategies, etc. While you will no longer receive a grade for this class, this average will be sent to me and be counted as a test score when progress and report cards are sent out

**Tardies:** Any student arriving late to class without a pass will be sent to attendance for a pass to class and can expect to receive Friday or Saturday school.

**Teacher's Tutorial Schedule:**

I will be available on Monday's from 3:30 to 4:00 to provide assistance for any student having trouble with Economics. This is help over and above any you may receive in Cherokee Block for Economics. I reserve the right to assign any student to this tutorial if they are having trouble.

**Materials Required:**

1. 3-Ring Binder
2. Pen or pencil
3. Paper

**CURRICULUM MAP**

Unit	Title	Chapters	GPS	Time in Days	Wks
1	Fundamentals	1, 2, 5, 7	EF 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	16	2-8
2	Microeconomics	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11	MI 1, 2, 3, 4	18	8-15
3	Macroeconomics	10, 13, 14, 15, 16	MA 1, 2, 3	17	16-23
4	International Trade of Mystery	17	IN 1, 2, 3	14	23-29
5	Let's Make It Personal	Life Skills plus...	PF 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	10	29-33
6	Review and EOCT	All above/GAM Prep	All	5-8	33-35
7	Post EOCT	2 <sup>nd</sup> Project/Grad Prep	All	5-8	35-39

\*\*This curriculum map may be changed as needed to meet unexpected issues.\*\*

90 days

**Tests & Quizzes:**

Unit tests have been prepared by the county and will be taken online using ClassWorks. Each test will be 30 multiple choice questions and a constructed response question set. Quizzes may consist of any combination of the following: multiple choice, matching, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, or free response questions. You will also be using graphs, charts and data in taking these examinations. Writing clearly and using these items is essential in developing your ability to articulate ideas clearly.

**Critical Thinking:**

Reading is thinking; writing is thinking; speaking is thinking; listening is thinking, therefore we will be doing all of these every day in class in order to better comprehend the ideas/concept associated with economics. You will need a 1 inch 3-ring binder to maintain your syllabus, vocabulary sheets, I Can handouts and writing assignments, which I will take up periodically for a classwork grade.

You will often be required to utilize the exercise 1 and exercise 2 format (see front board) in order to assist your discussions within small group discussions and whole group Socratic discussions. These will supplement and enhance your economic vocabulary. They will also strengthen your understanding of the important concepts and ideas that are the basis of your critical thinking skills in the classroom and as part of your life skills set that you are developing.

**Projects:**

There will be two writing projects during the semester; one per nine (18) weeks. The second paper can be "avoided" by passing the GAM and receiving a grade based on the GAM score (more to follow). The papers will be based on a rap video of a debate/discussion between two economists from history. You be able to view the video multiple times in class and on YouTube and find the lyrics on the course website. Yes, these are five paragraph papers!!!

**LDC:**

This work will be embedded in several of the units we cover during the semester and will result in a more formal paper than is required in your project papers (more to follow). More writing up to five paragraph work!!!!

**CISM:**

Another reading and writing initiative that will produce shorter writing assignments than the LDC or projects.